



SOCER ACTION

REGISTERED BY AUSTRALIA POST PUBLICATION NO VBP0351

JUGOSLOVSKA
SCENA:15

VIVA ITALIA:14

ΕΛΛΗΝΙΚΑ ΝΕΑ
ΣΕΛΙΣ:15

Vol. 10, No. 1 WEDNESDAY, 30 JANUARY, 1985

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Phone: (03) 605 4257/58 (editorial)
(03) 605 4259 (advertising)

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Peter Katholos

Katholos to AEK, Patalis to Ethnikos?

Peter Katholos of Sydney Olympic is set to transfer to AEK Athens for the start of the Greek season in September.

And another Greek First Division club, Ethnikos, is interested in Olympic's flying winger, Terry Patalis.

Katholos and Patalis trained in Greece over the holidays.

AEK wanted Katholos to stay, and offered him a place in its senior team, but business commitments forced him to return home.

However, AEK officials made it clear they want him back for next season.

Katholos now is trying to get Olympic to agree to a new contract which would release him to AEK in about July.

At AEK he would be in the company of

Greek internationals Mavros, Manolas and Arditoglu, Swedish striker Sandberg and Czech international Stambach.

"I think I could play in Greece, no worries," said Katholos, who won the 1983 Australian Player of the Year award.

"Playing in Europe would be the fulfillment of a dream. Alan Davidson is

doing it at Nottingham Forest and that alone, should give Australian players new confidence in their ability."

Katholos, who played for St George and Canterbury-Marrickville before joining Olympic, has represented Australia 23 times.

His weekly "Soccer Action" column appears on page 14 of this issue.

OUR
10th
YEAR

Gomez, Blair

may join the Roos

By LAURIE SCHWAB



Gomez



Blair

Chris Kalantzis (Olympic), Steve Blair (SM-Hellas), Gerardo Gomez (SC-Hakao), David Lowe, Rod Brown (Marconi) and Tony Dakos (Olympic) are among the players in line for a chance with the Socceroos.

Frank Arok mentioned them when he discussed the Socceroos 1984 world tour and the way the team is shaping for the mid-season international series, and the World Cup qualifying rounds.



• Gary McDowell

Preston Makedonia has offered Box Hill \$10,000 for striker Steve Smith, who capped a remarkable first season in the Victorian State League last year by winning the Bill Flannery Medal and "Socceroo" of the Year award for the State League Player of the Year.

Smith has agreed to terms for a two-year deal with the Socceroos.

As we went to press, McDowell hadn't received any official approach for the services of the four and there's still a chance they could reach agreement with the club over new contracts.

So far, only Socceroo striker Warren Spink is now known to have registered with Geelong.

ON THE MOVE

Hellas, Saints to get stars

• Marshall Soper and Gary McDowell were on the verge of transferring as we went to press.

Soper, the successor of Sydney Olympic, was being pursued by St George, while South Melbourne Hellas was expected to sign McDowell despite an offer for him from Juventus.

St George coach Frank Arok, who was Soper's coach in the national team, said he was keen to sign the striker providing he agrees to move to Sydney.

Although he has been playing for Sydney Olympic, Soper has continued to live in Maribyrnong.

Soper's price will be more than \$30,000, while Hellas has offered \$15,000 for McDowell, the midfielder or centre back whom Arok has earmarked for the national squad if he eventually meets residency requirements. McDowell came from Scotland where he played for Hamilton Academical.

— LAURIE SCHWAB

Target: Steve Smith

is an amateur but has spent the past two years at the Institute of Sport in Canberra.

Makelona will sign mid-fielder George Patras from Patras, once he recovers from injury.

Dandenong's Bill Potsoski, Doco, Marconi, Zenith, Altona, Victoria Park, Kew, Kewdale and George Coptic and goalkeeper Phil Timmings are in early touch. Bill Murray's Rockman would like to be in the Socceroos next year.

They all want to make

— CRAIG MACKENZIE

— Canberra, amazement from the loss of star striker Frank Facino to Sydney City.

Facino has resigned to also bring George Christopoulos to Heidelberg and Alan Reid to Brudenell City, is negotiating with a player in England and two on the domestic market but coach Doug Collins wouldn't release their names.

Off the field however, the news is brighter. The club will announce within a week a major sponsorship deal with James Hardie Industries. The deal is believed to be for a six-figure sum over two years.

Terry Byrne, who missed the 1982 season after requiring knee reconstructive surgery and shoulder surgery, has returned to the fold. They all want to make

— CRAIG MACKENZIE



• Marshall Soper

Byrne, Burke return

with Brisbane City for the return of defender Luciano Falanga. Fullback, Canberra, signed international striker Steve Hagg for Falanga.

Coach Collins has returned John Milandis, Tom Barnard, Hilton Phillips, Ray Jones, Marko Pavlicic, Paul Grange, Phil Richmond, Steve Bryant and Ian Gilligan. Along with Burke, Byrne, Franklin, Economoopoulos and the three newcomers he is trying to sign. Collins will have a strong squad this season.

— CRAIG MACKENZIE



Alan Davidson in Notts Forest strip — he'll play for Australia in the World Cup.

'Davo', Mitchell in

Some of the 1984 tourists, would be dropped, he said.

And Arok gave a firm assurance that Alan Davidson of Nottingham Forest and David Mitchell of Glasgow Rangers both will play for Australia in the World Cup.

His confidence in Davidson makes it likely that the won't fail to turn up an adequate replacement at right back, though Wally Savor, Ian Gray, John O'Shea and others were tried out there.

Aware of claims that he should have a settled team by now, Arok said:

"Let's not kid ourselves. No set of players can ever have a God-given right to all the places in the national team. Some did not produce what I expected on the tour, and we must try to find alternatives — even maybe one or two new ones for the starting line-up. 'We could do with more speed.'

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Continued p. 10

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Young 'Roos head off on the road to Russia

By CRAIG MACKENZIE

National youth coach Jim Shoulder is banking on speed, strength, mental toughness and organisation to carry Australia through the qualifying tournament at St. George stadium and into the finals of the 1985 World Youth Cup to be held in the USSR in August and September.

From February 15 to 24, Australia will compete with Israel, New Zealand, Taiwan, Fiji and Papua New Guinea in Sydney in a round-robin tournament which could see the emergence of future national stars.

While most observers see Israel as the greatest stumbling block in the way of clinching a finals berth, Shoulder won't fall into the trap of taking other opponents lightly.

"I don't know much about our opponents but traditionally Israel and New Zealand have given us most trouble," he said.

"Obviously, the Kiwis are going to be hard to beat. They don't produce players of the same quality as us but they're always well organised and motivated."

"Everyone seems to be overlooking Taiwan. I won't be making the same mistake. They'll be quick and sharp and if the conditions are hot, as expected, then they could give us problems."

"Fiji and Papua New Guinea are unpredictable. You could go out there and knock 12 past them or end up having really tough games."

"The best prepared side in terms of mental toughness and the side that treats each opponent on an equal footing is the side that should emerge with a finals spot."

Preston Makedonia's new signing, striker Warren Spink, has been suspended by the ASF for the St. George tournament after an



Jim Shoulder

incident during the 1984 Merlion Cup in Singapore where it was alleged that Spink urinated into an ashtray in a local shop.

Robert Markovac, at present at the centre of a transfer wrangle between Melbourne Croatia and Heidelberg, replaces Spink in Shoulder's 18-man squad.

"I support the suspension of Warren Spink. You can't represent your country and bring the game into disrepute," said Shoulder.

The Australians will bank heavily on the speed of players like Chris Kalantzis, Lou Hristodoulou and Sean Ingham and the strength of Peter Petkovski and Aki Kotzamichalis.

"It's the physical things that we're best at but we can play too, don't worry about that. Most of the lads are strong, quick and very athletic. In the Merlion Cup (where many youth players were used) we played a physical game. We marked opponents tightly and when we got the ball we used it quickly. It's probably going to be hot in Sydney in February and we'll have to keep the pres-

The Australian youth squad is:

GOALKEEPERS: Mirko Runje (Melbourne Croatia), Paul Jones (AIS).

DEFENDERS: John Gregson (Melita Eagles), Aki Kotzamichalis (Melbourne Croatia), Alex Tobin (Adelaide Juventus), Andrew Bernal (AIS), Robert Hooker (AIS), Michael McLennan (AIS).

MIDFIELDERS: Richard Bassingthwaite (Lions), Alex Bundalo (Wollongong), John Kanesoulis (SM-Hellas), John Panagis (WA-Hellas), David Sharpe (AIS).

FORWARDS: Chris Kalantzis (Olympic), Peter Petkovski (St. George), Louis Hristodoulou (AIS), Sean Ingham (AIS), Robert Markovac (Melbourne Croatia).

Eight players are on standby. They are:

Mark Jones, defender (Newcastle Rosebud United), Slavko Hrncar, defender (Beograd), Andrew Kozcka, utility (St. George), Paul Kolesnikowicz, goalkeeper (Polonia SA), Alex Lambropoulos, defender (Olympic), Pedro Ricoy, midfielder (St. George), Theo Stamatopoulos, midfielder (WA-Hellas), Craig Williams, forward (Melita Eagles).



SM-Hellas mid-fielder John Kanesoulis — one of the young Socceroos.

Triple – headers at St. George

The full draw for the World Youth Cup qualifying games to be held at St. George Stadium in Sydney is:

Friday, February 15: Fiji v Papua New Guinea at 4.30 pm; Taiwan v Israel at 6.15 pm; New Zealand v Australia in Australia at 8.15 pm.

Sunday, February 17: Papua New Guinea v Israel at 1 pm; New Zealand v Taiwan at 3 pm; Fiji v Australia at 5 pm.

Wednesday, February 20: Fiji v Israel at 4.30 pm; Papua New Guinea v New Zealand at 6.15 pm; Australia v Taiwan at 8.15 pm.

Friday, February 22: Fiji v Taiwan at 4.30 pm; Israel v New Zealand at 6.15 pm; Australia v Papua New Guinea at 8.15 pm.

Sunday, February 24: Taiwan v Papua New Guinea at 10 am; Fiji v New Zealand at 7 pm; Israel v Australia at 8.45 pm.

The long break between the first and second games on the final day is due to the NSW Ampol Cup final which kicks off at St. George Stadium at 1 pm.

Argentina, Scotland our victims

Australia is trying to qualify for the World Youth Cup finals for the third consecutive time.

The young 'Roos have failed to qualify just once. That was in Paraguay in 1979 when they drew twice with Israel but lost twice to the home country.

The World Youth Cup is held every two years. It first was held in Tunisia in 1977, then in Japan in 1979, Australia (1981) and Mexico (1983). The 1985 finals will be held in the USSR from August 24 to September 7.

Here are the line-ups of every World Youth Cup qualifying and finals game played by Australia:

1979

Qualifying tournament in New Zealand:

AUSTRALIA 0 Jennings, 2, Tredinnick, 2, Krcevic, 2, Raskopoulos, 2, Moulis, Christopoulos, 2, Papoulios, 2, Semelidis, 2, Kay (Jennings), 1, Hall, Krcevic, 1 in Auckland.

Australia: Woodhouse, Hogg, Rowden, Christopoulos, Spanos, Semelidis, Davidson (sent off 30th min), Raskopoulos (Milovanovic), Hunter, Krcevic, Tredinnick (Tombidis).

Qualifying tournament in Paraguay:

AUSTRALIA 0 PARAGUAY 2 in Asuncion.

Australia: Woodhouse, Moulis, Christopoulos, Rowden, Milovanovic, Semelidis, Kay (Jennings), 1, Hall, Krcevic, 1 in Asuncion.

AUSTRALIA 0 PARAGUAY 3 in Asuncion.

Australia: Woodhouse, Hogg, Rowden, Christopoulos, Milovanovic, Davidson, Semelidis, Kay (Jennings), 1, Hall, Krcevic, 1 in Asuncion.

AUSTRALIA 0 ISRAEL 0 in Asuncion.

Australia: Woodhouse, Hogg, Rowden, Christopoulos, Milovanovic, Davidson, Semelidis, Kay (Jennings), 1, Hall, Krcevic, 1 in Asuncion.

AUSTRALIA 0 PARAGUAY 3 in Asuncion.

Australia: Woodhouse, Hogg, Rowden, Christopoulos, Milovanovic, Davidson, Semelidis, Kay (Jennings), 1, Hall, Krcevic, 1 in Asuncion.

AUSTRALIA 0 ISRAEL 0 in Asuncion.

Australia: Woodhouse, Hogg, Rowden, Christopoulos, Milovanovic, Hall, Semelidis, Davidson, Jennings, Hunter, Krcevic, Tredinnick.

AUSTRALIA 5 (Krcevic 3 incl 1 pen, Hunter, Tredinnick) FIJI 1 in Auckland.

Australia: Woodhouse, Moulis, Rowden, Christopoulos, Milovanovic (Spanos), Semelidis, Kay (Jennings), 1, Hall, Krcevic, 1 in Auckland.

1981

World Youth Cup finals, held in Australia. Group D:

AUSTRALIA 2 (Koussas

80th, Hunter 90th) ARGENTINA 1 (Buncicaga penalty 68th) at Sydney Sports Ground. Crowd: 15,814.

Australia: Ahearn 7 — Wheatley 8, Blair 9, Crino 9, H. Tredinnick 7 — Lee 6, Raskopoulos 7, Kay 9, Incantalupo 6 (Hunter 64th) — Mitchell 8, Koussas 7 (Partikas 81st).

AUSTRALIA 3 (Mitchell 11th, Koussas 53rd, penalty 78th) CAMEROON 3 (Djonkay 37th, 52nd, 17th) at International Sports Centre, Newcastle. Crowd: 13,797.

Australia: Ahearn 6 — Wheatley 7, Crino 8, Blair 9, H. Tredinnick 7 — Lee 7 (Hunter 6.5th), Raskopoulos 7, Kay 8, Incantalupo 6 (Partikas 74th) — Mitchell 8, Koussas 7.

AUSTRALIA 1 (Koussas 7th) ENGLAND 1 (Small 83rd) at Sydney Sports Ground. Crowd: 28,932.

Australia: Ahearn 7 — Wheatley 8, Crino 8, Blair 9, H. Tredinnick 7 — Lee 7 (Hunter 63rd), Kay 9, Raskopoulos 9, Incantalupo 8 (Lee 80th) — Koussas 9, Mitchell 9.

Final Group D standings:

W D L F A P

England..... 1 2 0 4 2 4

Argentina... 1 1 0 6 5 4

Cameroon... 0 1 2 3 3 3

Quarter-final:

AUSTRALIA 0 WEST GERMANY 1 (Wohlfarth 69th) at Bruce Stadium, Canberra. Crowd: 18,000.

Australia: Ahearn 8 — Wheatley 7, Crino 9, Blair 8, H. Tredinnick 8 — Patikas 8. Raskopoulos 7 (Hunter 77th), Kay 8, Incantalupo 7 (Lee 45th), 8 — Mitchell 8, Koussas 7.

1982

Oceania qualifying tournament in Papua New Guinea for the 1983 World Youth Cup finals:

AUSTRALIA 7 Wright 3, Brown 2, Lowe, Incantalupo

FIJI 0

Australia: Hummel — Maier, McCulloch, Vlietstra, Jones — Farina, Fabrizio, Stewart, Incantalupo — Lowe, Brown.

AUSTRALIA 2 (Incantalupo 5th, Lowe) NEW ZEALAND 1

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Glamorous Croatia!

The return of the Kovacic brothers, Marijan and Alex, combined with the impending transfer of Jim Patikas from Sydney Olympic gives Sydney Croatia that most important of ingredients for success in soccer — drawing power.

The Croatian population is sure to be drawn to Brett Roric's exciting band of virtuosos, especially since Roric himself will line up in defence after the remaining technicalities concerning his



Marijan Kovacic



Alex Kovacic



Jim Patikas

transfer from Dinamo Zagreb are cleared up.

With Roric as player-coach, and all the players of last season back in harness, Sydney Croatia certainly looks strong enough to challenge the traditional giants, Sydney Olympic and Marconi.

The club continues its efforts to get a transfer for Emil Dragicevic, the exciting former Dinamo Zagreb player who has been in Sydney for more than six months.

Patikas has been training with Croatia and played in the pre-season challenge Cup

series. His transfer was expected to be finalised early this week.

Marijan Kovacic, Croatia's key midfielder for many years, was in dispute with the club for the latter part of last season, but their differences have been settled and he should add even

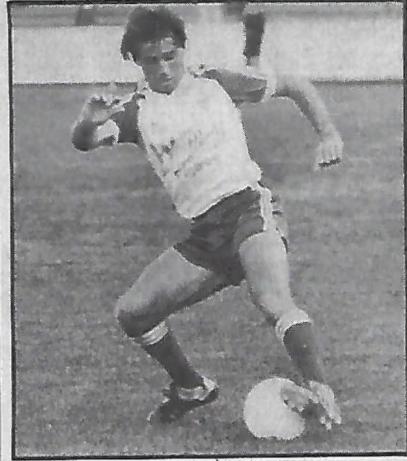
more glamour to this exciting combination.

His brother Alex did not play last year because he was concentrating on his university studies but now that he's back, he'll be pushing Brett Woods for the right-back position.

One of Croatia's main attractions is new Socceroo Wally Savor, who played seven of 12 games on the national team's world tour late last year.

And the club has been trying to secure Steve Golevski from Melbourne Croatia. Golevski trained in Sydney under Roric recently, and has expressed interest in moving north, although Melbourne Croatia won't let him go without a fight.

— LAURIE SCHWAB



Star Marconi recruit Peter Tredinnick

Junna quits Lions but Redmond, Wright are back

After an exciting run to the National Conference finals last season, Brisbane Lions are itching to start their 1985 program.

Lions surprised the experts with their entertaining last-season run that saw the young Brisbane side claw its way into fourth position and bow out of the finals series only on penalties to Heidelberg.

The run saw the Brisbane side break its embarrassing record of failing to win in Melbourne for eight years when it scored a knockout semi-final win over Juventus.

Last season was undoubtedly Lions' most exciting year and officials are predicting an even bolder showing this season.

Lions quite simply believe they have the best young side in Australia and believe it is now ready to take on and beat the so-called "southern giants".

But it has been a desperate battle for the Brisbane club to hold onto its 1984 team. Heidelberg and Melbourne Croatia were among the several clubs which made lucrative bids for the young Lions.

Big stopper Alan Hunter was the subject of a concerted approach by Heidelberg, but with a \$30,000 transfer on the table a quick transfer was not forthcoming. Although at the time of writing, Hunter had not re-signed for Lions, the club was confident of staving off the Melbourne offer, which reportedly included a big sign-on fee, accommodation and employment.

Croatia showed a lot of interest in Lions' fullback Steve Jackson, but the former Queensland youth player elected to spend another season in Brisbane where he is finishing his apprenticeship.

While Lions struggled to retain its stars this season, it would not be unrealistic to say that it was the euphoria of success late last year and the hope of a repeat this year that persuade some to stay. But to retain those players again at the end of this season, Lions must do well again, and more importantly, its players must begin to win national recognition. The belief that it is impossible to play for the Socceroos from Queensland prompted more than one player to consider a move south.

The Lions team has an average age of about 21 years and if club officials can keep the side together, the long term future at Richlands would look very rosy.

But if the club has an indif-



Ricky Rosso



Gordon Arrowsmith

ferent season, the floodgates will open and there will be no way Lions will be able to stop players like Hunter, Jackson, Russell Stewart, Roddy Vasquez and others from moving on.

Lions again will be coached by Gordon Arrowsmith, whose heroic efforts in resurrecting the club after the Noosa resignations earned him the Coach of the Year award from the Queensland branch of the Australian Soccer Press Association.

Arrowsmith has paid little attention to the open-to-transfer list because as club official said, "We don't want anyone. We are more than happy with our squad of young players. If anyone wants to come to the club we will certainly look at them but there is no need for us to go out looking at players."

Waiting to come into the team is young Socceroos squad

member Richard Bassingthwaite and a host of other fine young players like former striker Tom McGregor back after a spell at Olympic, Paul Burns, another youngster with NSL experience, David Hunter (Alan's brother), Simon Ireland and Mick Tonner.

Lions' only loss this season, assuming the Melbourne bids for Alan Hunter fall, will be Ray Junna, the former Noosa resignee who joined the Coach of the Year award from the Queensland branch of the Australian Soccer Press Association.

Redmond missed most of last season when he required a cruciate ligament operation. Wright similarly played only a small part of last year after he failed to shake off an ankle injury.

But both players reported fit and eager for pre-season training and are keen to force their way into the team.

The only injury worry lingering on is that of goalkeeper Rob Farrow's wrist, which is still suspect after two breaks in the past 12 months. But Wayne Evans stood in admirably during the finals series and could re-establish himself in the first team this season.

Genovese and Reda are strikers. Reda is a former Australian junior national captain. Sibina is a defender.

Colaguri is in Italy, training with Palermo, while Van Egmond is training with a Dutch First Division team. Bottalico expects them back "once they get tired of training over there," and he expects APIA to benefit greatly from the duo's experiences overseas.

APIA could move into the transfer market this week but although Bottalico is talking to a player in England, one in Sydney and another interstate, he refuses to name them.

And negotiations between APIA and Marconi for the release of full back Vic Bozanic are continuing. Bozanic played on loan with APIA last year.

Bradley, Gray on move

John Bradley transfer listed at \$5,000.... Ian Gray also... Peter Tredinnick on the move... and Terry Butler still negotiating over terms for a new contract.

Things aren't exactly easy at APIA, but try telling that to coach Fil Bottalico.

"We finished equal third with Marconi last year and we'll do even better this year," is his optimistic prediction.

"We've retained the bulk of last year's squad, guys like Arno Bertogna, Mark Pullen, Mark Brown, Kerry Caban and Tony Morshead, and we're moving back to Lambert Park which should bring back the fans."

Maybe its youngsters like Tony Genovese, Ali Reda, Carlo Sibina, Gary van Egmond and Vince Colaguri who instil confidence in Bottalico, for they all should figure prominently in the first team this season.

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CRAIG MACKENZIE

Juventus stars for sale

Five star players have been transfer-listed by NSL club Juventus.

They are:

HARRY HIRD, left back, missed much of last season after being injured while training with the Socceroos in practice match. Formerly of Altona City, and voted Juventus' player of the year in 1983.

KEVIN SWINSOE, midfielder or striker, played previously with Frankston City, and is now with the club.

VINCE BANNON, right back, twice won the Victorian Rothmans Medal and previously with Hellas, Heidelberg and Frank-

ston.

GEORGE MARTIN, goalkeeper, played in the Romanian First Division.

KEVIN LLOYD, midfielder or striker who joined Juventus from Victorian State League club Albion Rovers.

EDDIE CAMPBELL, full back or midfielder, joined Juventus from Scotland last year and was among the club's best players. Juventus is willing to release him on loan, at a nominal fee.

— LAURIE SCHWAB

Tredinnick a prize catch for Marconi

Peter Tredinnick will be Marconi's star recruit of 1985.

Tredinnick has a maximum \$10,000 transfer fee from his contract with APIA, but as we went to press, Marconi was trying to arrange an exchange with Vic Bozanic.

Bozanic, that forceful goalscoring full back who has been so unlucky not to be included in the Socceroos squad, was on loan from Marconi to APIA last season, and will be transferred to APIA permanently one way or another.

Tredinnick, whose brother Howard plays for Melita Eagles, has played seven games, including three full internationals, for the senior socceroos, and 10 for the Australian youth team.

He played for Newcastle KB United before joining APIA, where he established himself as one of the club's nastiest and most hard-working midfielders.

Marconi's Rene Licata, meanwhile, has been training with APIA and is expected to transfer there.

Marconi may also have lost Bertie Marijan, who was hoping to go to university in the US. He was in Europe over Christmas, visiting former team mate Eddie Krcevic, now with Bruges Circle in Belgium.

Jovan Djordjevic, meanwhile, has retired because his cartilage and cruciate ligament

injuries have failed to respond adequately to treatment.

Marconi coach Les Scheinfliug says the club has stopped paying its players signing-on fees, but has increased their win bonuses, making it possible for them to earn the same as last year providing they win enough games.

Marconi started training on January 3 — although Tommy McCullough was given more time off to recover from the Socceroos' world tour — and in practice matches drew 1-1 with Canterbury-Marwickville and beat its own youth team 5-1.

The only Marconi youth player who so far has been promoted to the senior squad is Martin Driene, who is in the NSW team that won the 1984 Australian secondary schools championship by beating Queensland 2-0. Driene scored one of the goals.

He started his career with Liverpool Robins in the under 8s before going to Moreton. He was selected to the Australian Schoolboys side after the secondary schools championships last year.

Looking to the 1985 National League championship, Scheinfliug tipped Marconi to be among the leaders, along with Sydney Croatia, Sydney Olympic, Sydney Hakoah and St. George Budapest.

— LAURIE SCHWAB

Knight to NSL

Steve Knight from Auburn was Blacktown's only new signing as we went to press but the club was negotiating with APIA for John Bradley and was rumored to be interested in transfer-listed Sydney Olympic star Marshall Soper.

Knight, voted under-21 Player of the Year in NSW last year by that State's branch of the Australian Soccer Press Association, was snapped up by Blacktown on a free transfer.

Bradley is proving a much tougher proposition to sign. APIA wants \$25,000 for the talented midfielder or striker and Blacktown thinks that about half that amount is a far more realistic figure. There's also \$25,000 on Soper's head and Blacktown will have to outbid St George if it hopes to sign him.

But Blacktown coach Casey de Bruin can take heart from the comments made by the club's secretary-manager Peter Thorne.

"We're not going to sell off many players. Rather, we're far more interested in strengthening our squad this year. We're still negotiating with a few of last year's players but I'm confident that we'll retain them," said Thorne.

One who won't be retained is striker Clive Eaton. He played part of last season with Blacktown and at the end of the year, Blacktown decided not to sign Eaton from Kuringal on a more permanent basis.

Paul Daley from Penrith was signed by Blacktown as we went to press.

Blacktown fullback Robbie Wheatey was transfer-listed at \$12,000 by the club late last year but Wheatey's refusal to sign a new contract was forced upon him by work commitments. He's recently completed his Diploma of Education and is waiting for the NSW Education Department to give him his posting. If he's sent to a school in the country then his days at Blacktown are numbered but if he gets a metropolitan posting, he'll stay at the Gabba.

— CRAIG MACKENZIE



Former national coach Joe Vlasits listens as Steve Knight thanks the Press for his NSW Under 21 Player of the Year trophy.

Wolves want Ken Boden

Wollongong was negotiating with Kenny Boden and Bernie Godzik of Sydney Croatia, Paul Kirwan of Blacktown and Domenic Giannone of Marconi as we went to press.

Gianone played on loan with Belmont last season. Wollongong coach Adrian Alston has lost John Fleming and Glen Fontana from his senior squad. Fleming in non-playing coach of NSW First Division club Fairy Meadow United. Fontana is his assistant, but Fairy Meadow is negotiating with Wollongong to keep playing.

Most of last year's squad has been re-signed but Larry Gaffney, Wollongong wouldn't release the price on Gaffney's head. Beggs is on a free.

Winger Rade Stevanovski, from local club Wollongong United Macedonia, has impressed Alston and looks likely to be a regular in Wollongong's first team squad this year.

Many young players have been tried and have impressed in pre-season friendlies. They include Mineo Bonetig, John Brown, striker Tony Corridini and striker Pat Brodin.

— CRAIG MACKENZIE

Ringwood Utd v Richmond

Victorian Second Division club Ringwood United will play a practice match against Richmond at Ringwood's ground on February 2. Reserves kick off at 1pm and seniors at 3pm.

Barbecue facilities and refreshments are available.

Ringwood coach Kontra has retained his 1984 players but is eager to add a few experienced players to his squad.

He can be contacted on 486 1333 (bus) or 725 5392 (home).

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CRAIG MacKENZIE

WORTHINGTON MAY GUEST WITH WEST

West Adelaide Hellas could have flamboyant English striker Frank Worthington as its trump card this year.

Hellas goalkeeper Gary Sproul negotiated with Worthington through his former West Ham United colleague Trevor Brooking during as Christmas holiday.

Worthington studied the contract delivered by Sproul and returned it to Hellas with amendments.

Provided Worthington can arrange a release from his Second Division club Brighton, he could become Westland's



Allan Crisp

most celebrated guest player since Graeme Souness.

Controversial Worthington showed he has lost none of his flair and showmanship when he guested for Manchester United in Australia last year.

Big Frank has been there and done that with Leicester, Everton, Bolton, Southampton, Leeds United and

Huddersfield and has the star qualities needed to set the turnstiles clicking.

With or without a star guest, the man in the Hellas hot-seat in '85 is former captain Neil McGahey.

A man with the club at heart since he joined it as a teenager, McGahey had a taste of coaching for a brief period in 1978 when he was stop-gap supremo between the departure of John Margaritis and the arrival of Jim Adam.

McGahey's philosophy on coaching is direct. "Now I have the job, the only thing certain is that I will eventually get the sack."

"Until I do, I intend to enjoy every minute of it."

With Rab Jones of Birkdale, Nick Pantellis and Rothmans League coach Peter Koulitz as his back-up men, McGahey is aiming for flexibility and versatility in his playing staff.

So far Hellas has gained Croatia striker Gary Price and beaftalk defender Les Matiscak from Campbelltown City.

Former Azzurri striker and Australian six-a-side representative Alan Scott also is close

to joining Hellas, while 1984 casualties George Konstantopoulos and Steve Atsalas are back in full training.

However, full-back John Papazoglou still has injury problems which could keep him immobile for several more weeks.

On the credit side, captain Graham Honeyman will continue and full-back Ian McGregor will stay until his employment takes him into the country areas.



Frank Worthington (right) guesting for Manchester United during last year's World Series in Australia, is being closely marked by Des Walker of Nottingham Forest. Picture by LES SHORROCK.

PENRITH TO RAKE IN THE CASH

Penrith is set to announce, within a fortnight, the biggest sponsorship deal yet signed by an Australian club.

Penrith so far is keeping tight-lipped about the deal which is believed to involve a substantial sum which will secure the club's financial future over the next five years.

Most of last year's squad has been retained with the exception of striker Roy Cotton, who returned to his old club St George, and defender Paul Daley, who is set to join Blacktown.

Former Newcastle KB import, Jim Hamilton, is negotiating with Penrith coach Willie Wallace. Hamilton is playing with Scottish club Queen of the South.

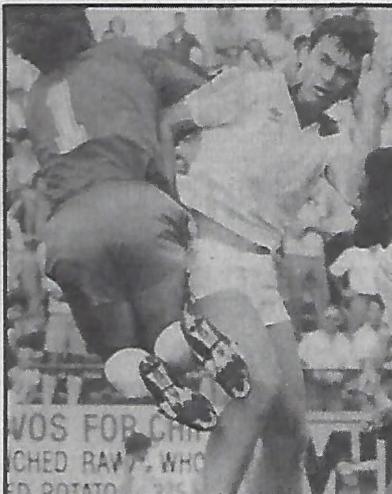
Ian Wotherspoon and Brian Jackson are expected back from the U.K. shortly.

Youngster Randall Easthorpe, Michael Toohey and Jim Shute have impressed coach Wallace this year and look like being regulars in the first team squad. All are locals. Easthorpe and Shute are forwards. Toohey is a defender.

"We not only want to consolidate this season, we also want to improve on last year's 7th place finish," said Wallace.

"With the new sponsorship deal soon to be announced all the club's money problems have been erased. Now we can get down to the job of making Penrith a force in the National League."

— CRAIG MACKENZIE



Adrian Santrac, then with WA-Hellas, challenges goalkeeper Peter Laumets.

Miller or Parks?

Adelaide City Juventus will call on the stability of re-appointed coach Edmund Kreft and some astute pre-season signings to boost its 1985 stocks.

Kreft started his planning before he had been officially reappointed by grabbing 1981 Rothmans Medallist Adrian Santrac from Beograd back in November.

Assisted on trial match form, Santrac looks set to make an impact in the Juventus midfield alongside 1984 NSL Player of the Year, Sergio Meita.

Santrac was less than successful in his previous NSL stint with West Adelaide Hellas, but he was then fielded mainly as a striker, not in his natural midfield role.

With Willie McNally likely to resign, Kreft, at Press time, was negotiating with brilliant young Azzurri goalkeeper David Miller.

Kreft also has had talks with APIA goalkeeper Robbie Parks, who plans to return to Adelaide.

Parks played for SA Roth-



Brian Northcote

mans League club Cumberland United before he joined Apia four years ago.

Another of the Miller clan, Colia, a younger brother of David, has joined Juventus from northern club Para Hills.

Another on Kreft's wanted list are Mike (Scoty) Donnelly from Azzurri and Fortu Costanzo from Salisbury United.

With full-back Paul Shillabeer likely to join Azzurri, Donnelly could win a permanent NSL berth in the back four.

Donnelly and striker Costanzo have been impressive in Ampol Cup trial matches, but Kreft is quick to point out that some of his new men will be needed to bolster the State League team.

Apart from the probable loss of Shillabeer, Juventus also is likely to transfer striker Pat DeVito and defender Robbie Albertson to Azzurri in a swap deal for David Miller.

Juventus will be more frugal with its guest player strategy this season than last when it brought out Nello Scarpa, Tommaso Talarico and Graziano Tavoni from Italy.

But club president Charlie Caruso has discounted the possibility of inviting Scarpa to return this year.

While negotiations for new signings continue, Juventus received an unexpected bonus with the return to the training track of former ironman midfielder Brian Northcote.

Northcote retired in April 1983 after a series of operations failed to correct a groin injury.

Now the former Granville player has answered all of Kreft's pre-season training demands and is ready for a stunning comeback.

— ALLAN CRISP

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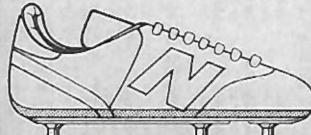
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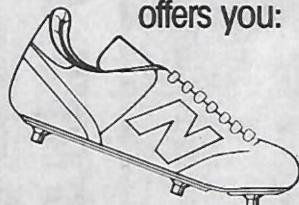
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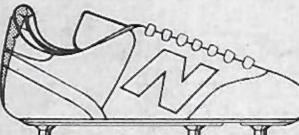
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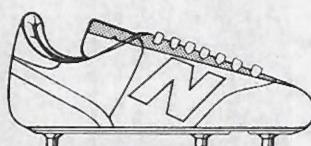
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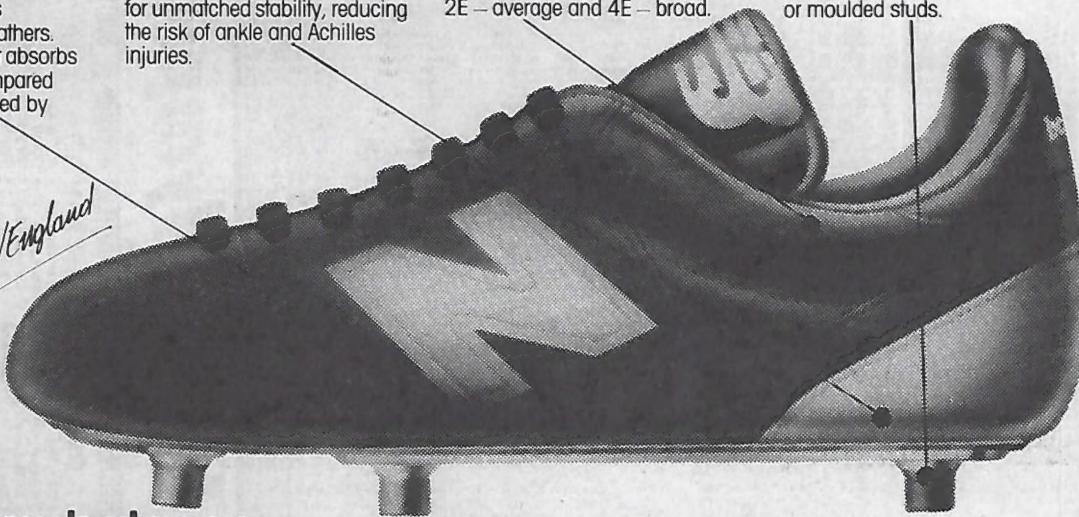
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Eight new players at Croydon; Mila back?

State League round-up
by CRAIG MACKENZIE

Croydon expected to finalise Dave Brogan's transfer from Melbourne Croatia as we went to press and still was negotiating with Frankston Pines for the release of defender Steve Beech.

If Brogan and Beech join Croydon, it will be player-coach Peter Ollerton's eighth new signing this year! Jim Tansey and Kenny Turner joined from Footscray J.U.S.T. for \$4,500, Ollerton got a free from Preston Makedonia. Bill Whitehead was freed from Maxwell Falcons. Jim McElroy joined from Sunshine-George Cross in a \$1,000 cash and swap deal which saw Lou Kastner joining Cross; and last week midfielder Matt McDonald joined from Doveton in a cash and swap deal involving winger Peter Kiley.

Mike Rainey has been transferred listed at his own request; Steve Irvine could join Hamlyn Rangers; North Denzdening is interested in Dave Griffith; Eddie Ormond might join Northcote; and Lucci Sassi is the latest.

Their was less feverish wheeling and dealing at Polonia but new coach Eddie Read could get great news later this week for his club is waiting for Stefan Mila to return. If Mila refused the invite, Polonia probably will sign a new player for Poland.

Despite losing coach John Gardiner and strikers Carl Gilder and Noel Mitten to Sunshine-George Cross, Polonia should have easily signed a squad this year. Gino Warszawski has been signed from Ringwood Wilhelmina; Leszek Dzielakowski is back in goal and Polish import Leszek Gereczuk who joined last year, and Peter Czapnik are in great touch. And midfielder Savas Saglam rejoined Polonia last Friday on a free from Brunswick Juventus.

George Petrov's move to Preston Makedonia has been stalled due to his knee injury. Kevin Innes is nearing peak fitness again after a long injury lay-off, Dario Kolaric and Joe Vojna are making strong bids for first team spots, while Polonia still waits for stopper Dan McCloskey to appear at training.

Fawker seems certain to lose midfielder Ged Bannon and striker Neil Garvey to newly promoted Springvale City; Guy Bakker has joined Knox for \$500 and Harry McKinlay is listed at \$2,000. So far, the only likely newcomer to coach Gus Macleod's first team is defender Joe Vizzini from Broadmeadows.

Goalkeeper Rob Terzini is sidelined with shoulder ligament trouble and striker Joe Palinkas still in long term with Fawker. Striker Bruno Cozzella has retired due to business commitments but coach Macleod still thinks there's a chance Cozzella might return.

Don't be surprised to hear that star Box Hill defender Ian Roodhouse is joining a Scottish Premier League club. Roodhouse is in England trialling

with Crystal Palace but he's also going to trial with Aberdeen and Dundee. His loss could be the second major blow felt by the Hillmen this year for striker Steve Smith is off to Preston Makedonia's swap list. And striker Paul Priestley has joined Doveton.

However midfielder Chris Taylor, a Welsh youth international and an ex-Wrexham and Tranmere Rovers player, is expected shortly. Once approval of his visa comes through, he'll be flying to Australia.

Box Hill failed in attempts to sign Rob Nelson from North Dandenong and Bill Lazopoulos from Western Suburbs. Nelson decided to join Frankston Pines while Lazopoulos moved with the Hillmen two years ago while still on the books of Metro Leaguer Hawthorn, seems set to join Footscray J.U.S.T.

Dave Brooks and Dean Hennessy return from the U.K. in February and Brian Keenan's future at Wembley Park is undecided. Morwell showed interest in the wingers who presently is injured.

Whiteside and Gerry Clarke are Morwell's main losses from last year's State League championship side. Clarke has returned to Northcote and is signed.

But good news from coach Jimmy Dume is that 1984 Victorian Rothmans Medal winner, midfielder Jim MacLean, signed a new contract with Falcons last week.

Falcons are rumored to be interested in signing transfer-listed Melbourne Croatia goalkeeper Peter Blasby, while winger Chris Kent is the only first team squad member up for transfer so far. He's listed at \$3,000.

Springvale City has signed goalkeeper Gary Clayton from Brunswick Juventus, Jim Nelson from Doveton, and has agreed to swap midfielder Mike McIvor for Frankston Pines player Paul Luca.

Springvale coach Ian Greener is talking to midfielders at two rival State League clubs and a midfielder or sweeper from a Melbourne-based NSL club. Only one of these players will be signed.

Dave Hoyland and Robin Settle are in the U.K., Aki Kotzamichalis has joined Melbourne Croatia, and Peter Moore has retired, however Moore will assist Greener with goalkeeper training.

Central defender Andy Smale was then Thomastown coach Joe Wilson's sole new signing so far, but Thomastown hopes to successfully conclude negotiations with Bulleen for the signature of midfielder Victor Tavolari.

Branko Cusma hasn't come to terms with St Albans Dinamo over a new contract, however club officials are hopeful that agreement will be reached.



Gary Hobson
Hobson available

Gary Hobson has been transferred listed by Fawker for \$5,000.

Hobson, one of the best defenders in the Victorian State League, has first team of senior soccer in Australia with Doncaster Rovers eight years ago. The 23-year-old joined Croydon two years later and made his senior debut there at 17. He returned to England while still a teenager and played with Reading for six months.

Hobson can be contacted at work on 791 3599 or at home on 725 3685.



Cedo Cirkovic

Footscray J.U.S.T. coach Cedo Cirkovic has opened a new sports store in Richmond.

Called "Sports Extra", it is located at 66 Bridge Road, and the phone number is 429 3079.



Soviet liner Mikhail Lermontov

KNOX TAKES ON SOVIETS

• Senior professional players in the crew of Soviet ocean liner Mikhail Lermontov will play against Victorian State League club Knox City at Egan Lee Reserve, Knoxfield, on 16 February at 2 pm.

The game will be staged during the under 14 All-Nations Cup being run by Knox City.

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Stojilovic, Petrov shine, Kastner back

**Foots JUST 1
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Milan Stojilovic from Springvale United, and back Emil Petrov who's back after a year in the lower leagues with Red Star, have come up trumps for Footscray J.U.S.T., while striker Carl Gilder seems to have found a new lease of life with Sunshine-George Cross.

Gilder spent half of last season on loan to Polonia, where he regained confidence by scoring goals. That confidence, with him still married to George Cross's new coach John Gardiner who was Gilder's coach at Polonia as well.

Gardiner's old George Cross team mate Lou Kastner has returned to the club to man the goal, after stints with Keilor-Austria, Makedonia and Croydon since leaving a few years ago.

Noel Mitten, who's had more clubs than Jack Nicklaus — Hellas, Albany Rover, Frankston, Croatia, Morwell Falcons, Polonia — also fol-

lowed Gardiner to George Cross, and the club last Friday introduced its latest recruit, Ivan Istuk, the former Croatia and St. Albans player bought from Chelsea.

Haggling over J.U.S.T.'s star player Gary McDowell continued as we went to Press, with Hellas having offered \$15,000 cash and Juventus \$20,000 in instalments. J.U.S.T. didn't want to accept instalments, and was trying to get Hellas to increase its offer, which included goalkeeper Mark Turudia as an exchange player.

McDowell, who joined J.U.S.T. from Hamilton Academicals in 1983, decided at first to join Juventus, but then switched his preference to Hellas. His defender or midfielder turned out for J.U.S.T. against George Cross last Friday and promptly scored with a deflected shot after Petrov had passed the ball from the left. Osie Latif equalized only two minutes later with a shot that bounded in off both goalposts.

McDowell, who has attracted

the attention of national coach Frank Arok, says he wants a transfer because he feels he has a better chance of winning a championship elsewhere.

J.U.S.T. also will lose its brilliant goalkeeper Dennis Boland — he's been even more brilliant than usual in the Buffalo Cup — after the series.

The club agreed to give him a free transfer in lieu of money it owes him.

Turudia would be his replacement, as J.U.S.T. failed in negotiations for George Martin of Juventus.

Also on the debit side is J.U.S.T.'s hassles over club president Zika Karic, who has disappeared mysteriously. The club called an emergency directors' meeting to establish a stop-gap leadership until an extraordinary general meeting elects a new president in about a week's time.

Petrov at left back has been playing with tremendous force and enthusiasm, and coach Cedo Cirkovic has been trying out two young team players, centre back Radovan Barjakarevic and right back Milivoj Durdevic.

However, senior player Simeon Cirkovic had a disagreement with Cirkovic, and appears to be after a transfer.

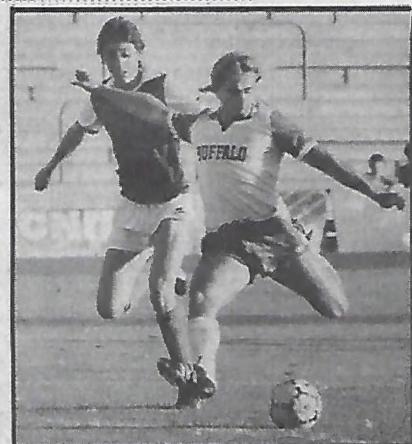
Of last year's squad, J.U.S.T. has lost Jim Tansey who's gone to Croydon, captain Igor Hazabent who's retired because of work pressures, Brian O'Donnell who's back in Sydney looking for a club, Jamie Paton who hasn't been seen since being married recently, and Ken Taylor who also has gone to Croydon after spending much of last season on the sidelines.

Left back Graham Tutil will also be sold.

One of the replacements is young forward Ernie Tapai, a Victorian youth representative who joined from Melbourne-Hungaria.

Former J.U.S.T. midfielder star Joe Pisciano who later played with Marconi and Royal Richmond, also may rejoin the club.

Meanwhile, Gardiner, 37,



Sunshine-George Cross striker Osie Latif prepares to let fly at goal, after breaking clear of Footscray J.U.S.T. defender Radovan Barjakarevic.

has come to George Cross as the savior expected to lift the club closer to its former glory, after it finished last in 1984.

Gardiner, an ASF staff coach for the past four years, won the Victorian Rothmans Medal in 1971 and 1972. He was playing with Polonia last year and Hamlyn Rangers in 1983 and he started the Buffalo Gold Cup as sweeper for George Cross, but he'd rather play in a lower league than coaching in the NSL, so he's likely to hear offers.

He had a brief spell with Hellas in 1977, and was with Green Gully as assistant coach.

LAURIE SCHWAB

Easy for Effie

Morwell F.1 Fawkner 0

Sunshine-George Cross fans must be wondering why their officials suddenly went cold on the idea of signing winger Effie Cassar from Morwell Falcons. These officials were raving about Cassar after his performances for Malta in the Centenary World Cup last year.

Cassar, in the second half, tore Footscray J.U.S.T. apart in Falcons first Buffalo Cup match two weeks ago and last week, against Fawker, he scored the decider.

Steve Moore, playing sweeper, moved forward in the 61st minute, beat an opponent and played the ball to a team mate, looking for a two-goal lead. Moore didn't get a good return pass but before Fawker could smash the ball clear, Russell Athersich slid in and poked it across the area to Cassar on the left. Cassar struck a first timer which beat Corrado Nobile at the near post and maintained Falcons' perfect record in the Buffalo Gold Cup.

Fawker coach Gus Macleod opted for a five man defensive wall in the first half. Cesare Fattore was sweeper, Ralph Petrecelli and Michael Giacomi were full backs, Frank Macleod picked up Ian Stirton and Fabio Angele marked Athersich.

But two chances within a minute almost put Falcons ahead. In the 17th minute Cassar's cut back from the left was met first time by Athersich but the ball whistled over the bar. An Athersich chip shot Stirton clear in the 18th minute but he shot well wide from 12 metres.

Ian Tuffield headed over in the 20th minute following a cross from the right by Petrecelli and seven minutes later Falcons goalkeeper Romeo Prestoso failed to hold a corner from Joe Paladino. In the 25th minute Giacomi headed over.

In the 28th minute Jim MacLennan sent Cassar down the left and charged forward looking for the return. Cassar cut the ball back to MacLean whose first time effort was high and wide.

Couch Macleod re-arranged his formation at half time, pushing Angele into midfield and leaving just four at the back, and three minutes into the second half Tuffield headed over at the far post when he should at least have got his attempt on target.

Peter Boyle and John O'Callaghan were niggling each other in midfield. Both got booked.

Fawker looked capable of grabbing a draw until Cassar struck.

It wasn't a great spectacle but it's early days yet and after the success both clubs enjoyed in last year's State League, especially Falcons, they'll be up there again this season vying for honors.

— CRAIG MACKENZIE

Arok eyes new men

From page one

ones. Arok said, adding however that this applied to many others as well.

Stopper David Ratcliffe had some outstanding matches, but Arok rightly pointed out that it was easier to stand out in defence.

Terry Greedy of St George remains the No 1 goalkeeper due to his experience.

We suggested that Tony Franken of Canberra United has the ability to stand Arok up.

Franken, who has the experience and in the last line, that it all important. You have to know exactly what you're doing when you're coming at you from all angles, and that's where the experience is irreplaceable."

Frank Farina, now of

Sydney Hakoah, had more international matches in 1984 than league games. Asked how Farina had stood up to the rigorous schedule, Arok said: "It was disappointing he did not score, but he definitely has much to offer because he is so fast, and so hungry."

Arok was pleased with the way the players handled the challenge of tour matches against illustrious opposition, and is not at all downhearted by the results.

He said he was preparing video clips of the team's defensive errors and its strong points, which will show to gatherings of players in Sydney and Melbourne.

He will travel overseas soon

to watch Israel in action.

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St George wins Pindari Cup, Arok praises Kalantzis

St George continued its domination of pre-season tournaments when it won its second Challenge Cup in successive years. Renamed the Pindari Challenge Cup the competition incorporated teams representing four ethnic groups in Sydney.

This, of course, was an insurance against lack of publicity and lack of support for the tournament.

All four teams will pocket around \$10,000 each with the prize money donated by the Pindari Industries on top of gate receipts.

St George, by winning the tournament, will collect \$5,000, Croatia, for finishing second \$3,500, Sydney Olympic in third place gets \$1,500 and APIA gets \$1,000.

A mere pittance you might say, but some of the few clubs would make that much if it won the title of Australian champion! One club official was adamant that this kind of tournament gives all participating clubs a good springboard into the NSW Ampol Cup and the NSL competition.

However, the expected turnout, particularly that of Olympic fans, never eventuated. The organisers of the tournament insisted that all four sides in the competition field their best available teams. St George and Croatia did so and proved to be the strongest sides.

APIA had Terry Butler, Mark Brown, Rob De Ceglie and Tony Morsello in its side for the first two matches, while Arno Bertogna chimed in for the last game.

Seven positions were occupied by APIA juniors.

"Clubs are going broke and players are getting more and

more expensive," said one of the APIA officials.

"We are determined to put our house in order. First build a good ground and provide our spectators with facilities they deserve. Our juniors are good and in time will prove to be just as good as those who claim to be worth so much money."

As for Olympic, it was a total disaster!

Five first graders fronted in the first of the three matches, and six in the second match. Then for the last match only one first grade, Harry Phillips, was in the starting line-up with Chris Kalantzis joining in during the second half.

Paying \$5 to see this tournament just was not on!

SO they stayed away in droves. The large Greek soccer support in Sydney was the first to abandon ship. Only a few hundred, the core of Olympic fans, fronted and you wouldn't have known that they were there. The game was so poor, many of them left the ground at half time!

As for the two matches played in the last round of the Pindari Cup there was little to say. Saints, who dominated this tournament, met their match in Croatia, but the four minutes provided very few spills and thrills.

Saints never looked like losing but failed to play the game which destroyed Olym-

pic and APIA in the first two rounds. Croatia seemed satisfied with a point which was to give it the runner-up money and seldom attacked with venom.

Zeljko Jurin tried hard, but the rest only did their jobs to keep Saints at bay. As for Saints, the money and the trophy is in their hands, but an injury to Dez Marion in the last seconds of the match marred celebrations. As Marion pounced on the ball to shoot, he was tackled by a Croatia player.

Marton sprawled on the ground in pain. On came a substitution and there were fears of a broken leg. However, it turned out to be just a badly broken ankle.

Marton has been a delight to watch in the years he has been with St George. He is the kind of player who needs protection because he is a marked man.

The match for third place between APIA and Olympic was an awful affair. Olympic's youth versus the APIA youth never looked like giving spectators their money's worth and ended in a draw, giving Olympic third place.

The opening round of the Pindari Cup belonged to Croatia and St George. Amidst rumours that Bradley was set to be transferred and the money problems that have besieged Olympic, it was no surprise to see APIA and Olympic field under-strength teams, doomed for defeat well before the kick off.

APIA offered some resistance during the curtain raiser

against Croatia but all was lost during one of a most one-sided second half. Parading new recruits, APIA hoped for better things, but the young ones failed to find a feel in their new surroundings and seldom looked the goods.

Added to APIA's problems, Marton and Jones collided in the 4th minute, providing Graeme Arnold with the easiest of goals, then the APIA defence stood and watched as Arnold latched onto a free kick by Jurin to score the winning goal in the 9th minute. APIA also had struck in the 4th minute, thanks to Morsello.

Croatia's defence was to blame for APIA's equaliser after Morsello ran through to beat Woodhouse.

Licata had a sitter in the 13th minute but missed and slowly but surely the depleted APIA fell away. Croatia easily could have scored a few more had it not been for the evergreen Butler who saved his side on at least three occasions.

The St George and Olympic battle turned into a nonentity. Saints scored early through John Broadhouse then dominated for most of the match before scoring yet again with 28 minutes to go through Peter Petkovski.

Olympic had six of its regular players out of the side. Missing were Patikas, Rastopoulos, Condy, Rogers, Phillips and Soper. If you add Kalantzis and Patalis as the back-up players and the fact that Olympic was in training for only three sessions before this

match then the picture becomes a little clearer.

Saints had a full side and on

Match-by-match analysis

CROATIA 2 (Arnold 4th, 9th) — A.P.I.A.

1 (Morsello 4th) Crowd: 4950 Referee: Terry Seacy 9.

CROATIA: Woodhouse 7, — Alex Kovacic 6 (Meades 41st-6), Vidale 7, Basic 7, Tomasic 6 (Spiric 41st-6), Woods 7, Marjan Kovacic 7 (Pejic 67th), Rezo 6, — June 8, Arnold 7, Kero 6 (Calete 41st-6).

A.P.I.A.: Catlin 5 — Spina 6, Butler 8, Jones 5, Brown 5, De Ceglie 6, Caban 5 (Martinez 25th-6), Reda 5 (Morsello 75th), — Genovese 6, Morsello 6, Licata 5.

ST GEORGE 2 (Broadhouse 2nd, Petkovski 60th) — SYDNEY OLYMPIC 0

Crowd: 3,505 Referee: Ken Small 5.

ST GEORGE: Greedy — (Boyce 68th), — Skeen 7, Ratcliffe 7, M. O'Shea 7, R. O'Shea 7, — Barton 7, J. Ricoy 41st (5), U. O'Shea 7, — Slater 7, Petkovski 6, Marton 6 (High 77th).

SYDNEY OLYMPIC: Meir 6, — Hamiots 6, Dakos 7, Lambropoulos 6, Jennings 7, — Naumov 6, Katholos 7, Svirios 5, Zervas 5 (Spanakos 41st-5), — M. Kousas 6 (A. Kousas 62nd), Johnstorn 6.

ST GEORGE 3 (Marton 3rd, Kocza 8th, Slater 21st) — A.P.I.A. 0 Crowd: 4,050 Referee: G. Warne 8.

ST GEORGE: Greedy 6 — Skeen 8, Ratcliffe 7, M. O'Shea 7 (Moffit 60th), Kocza 8 — Barton 7, T. Ricoy 7 (U. O'Shea 41st-6), Ricoy 6 (Darlington 70th), Marton 9.

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Illinden rocks Marconi, Henderson sent off, Ali Reda a sensation

Led by ex-Marconi player Paul Degney, Rockdale Illinden returned to the scene of its 1984 grand final triumph to defeat star-studded Marconi before 3,500 spectators.

Illinden, with its eyes on NSW status, is determined to do well in the NSW State League this year, and its Ampol Cup form will certainly do no harm to Illinden's chances.

It was not a night for celebration at the Italian-backed Marconi club.

Its sister club from Canberra, Inter Monaro, was knocked out of the Cup, by Manly Warringah, in the curtain raiser at Marconi stadium.

At St George Stadium, Uruguayan Auburn, backed by a very large band of supporters could do little to stop Blacktown City from winning, but performed well in its first match.

Sydney Olympic fell to an under-strength APIA and runners of further troubles and plain unsuccess at the club.

Raskopoulos, Jennings, Phillips, Kousas and Soper were still on the missing list.

And with the loss of Jimmy Patikas to Croatia, Olympic is looking very poor indeed.

The NSW Ampol Cup continues this week with matches at Marconi Stadium and St George Stadium:

Friday at Marconi Stadium: 7.00 pm, Wollongong City

- Penrith City

8.30 pm Croatia-Melita

Sunday, St George Stadium:

4.30 pm Avala-Bankstown

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NSW AMPOL CUP

By ALEX VESIC

The home side fought hard and had one more opportunity for a reprieve in the last minute but Craig Mason found Kotzohambos unbeatable, even from as close as seven metres.

Manly 1 Inter Monaro 0

Manly completed a hat-trick, as in many matches, over Inter Monaro to eliminate the NSW newcomer from the Ampol Cup. Mark Holloway was the scorer after some good running by Manly in the 24th.

Pagano's cross eluded Inter's defence and the outstretched arms of Michael Hocking to find unmarked Holloway at the far post for a tap-in.

With no options left, referee Timmy Davies struck, pulling out the red card. Henderson was still remonstrating as he trudged off the Park, to no avail.

Despite the setback, Marconi could have won the match. Only four minutes later Rod Brown was only metres from the line with the ball at his feet, after a cross by David Lowe, but found the net again.

As things looked like they were not enough, Bruce James came in from his own brand of benevolence. As a cross came from the left, he rose high to collect the ball then, unchallenged, dropped it for Ross Brown to head over the line!

Sydney Olympic is out of the

Ampol Cup for 1985. Olympic's exit signalled the end of an Ampol Cup crowd extravaganza. In fact Sydney Olympic supporters, with the exception of a few, have vanished! Void of name players such as Jennings, Taskopoulos, Patikas, Phillips, Soper, Kousas, Coady and Rogers, Olympic looked pale.

The presence of Dakos and Katalos as well as Kalantzis and Patalis did little to improve its chance of success. In fact only Dakos did enough not to tarnish his reputation while the others could hardly put a foot right.

Meier was one of the very few who performed well in this under-strength Olympic 'youth team'. He faced Caban in the 17th to block a shot which was goal-bound, but could do little to stop Genovese from scoring six minutes later. Genovese combined well with De Ceglia to face Meier before slotting his pass under the keeper and into the net.

Only a minute later it was Ali Reda, the 19-year-old sensation, who unleashed a screamer from 30 metres which sailed over Meier and under the crossbar to give APIA the winning lead.

Olympic came back late in the match to score from the penalty spot after a defender had handled inside his own penalty area. Theodorakopoulos took the kick but found Catin too good, only to pick up the rebound and score.

Blacktown 2 Uruguayan 1

State newcomer, Uruguayan Auburn, with six six players straight from teams like Colocolo and Welcome (NSW amateurs), battled well before going down to an under-strength Blacktown.

In fact the Uruguayans contained Blacktown during the first period. Their large support of more than 1,000 showed its appreciation for the South American style of play despite the loss. Every time someone attempted the unusual the crowd was on its feet to applaud.

When Tony O'Shane smashed his penalty shot into the net to make it 1-1, not too many people at the ground could guarantee that Blacktown was going to go home a winner.

Alas, indecision in Uruguay's defence cost the side dearly. Ian Shaw slotted the ball home from close range to hit the winner in the 41st.

Earlier on, it was Martin Bourke's turn. He scored the opening goal in the 7th minute from a cross by Brett Thorntwaite, then with nine minutes left in the half, Bourke handled inside his own area to give away a penalty, an eventual equaliser. To top it all, he received a yellow card and was involved in small skirmishes around the park.

An eventful afternoon for Bourke! Gary Byrne was less fortunate. He was carried off with a suspected rib fracture and is going to be out of the Ampol Cup competition.

First round

The opening round of this year's Ampol Cup produced predictable results with the exception of Polonia's heavy loss to Uruguayan Auburn. A number of State League clubs have gone through an overhaul hoping that the new season would bring new and favorable results.

Canterbury snared Raul Blanco from Melita Eagles as coach.

Narabeen and National opened the Ampol Cup at Cook Park and did a bad job of it. Bob Hammond gave National the lead in the 46th, then Hosseini failed to beat Dean a few minutes later before Narabeen started its late

Round 1: BANKSTOWN NATIONAL 1 (Hessan 46th) WARRINGAH NARABEEN

0. URUGUAYAN AUBURN 5 (O'Shane 24', 73', Vasrela 36', 63', Danoso 42') POLONIA 2 (Sobczyk Pen 7', A. Anderson 29')

ROCKDALE ILLINDEN 0 (Karanfilovski) CANTERBURY MARRICKVILLE 0 MELITA EAGLES 3 (Allan 57th, Walker 75th, Farrugia 82nd) SUTHERLAND 2 (Delorme 39th Pen, Connor 69th).

MELITA EAGLES: Londos - McPherson, Wilson, McCoy, O'Rourke, - McAusland, Allan (Callinan 90), Farrugia - Laius, Walker, McKie.

SUTHERLAND: Dart - Heslop, R. Schumann, Delorme, Terry, - Rogers, Tasker (Seller 49th), Harrington - Groom, Conner, Hergaves.

MANLY WARRINGAH 2 (J. Dick 63', Holloway 80') - Ku-Ring-Gai 1 (Sutherland 73').

MANLY WARRINGAH: Barker - Pearce, Doyle, J. Dick, S. Dick - Steven, Pagano, Etherington (Campbell 41st), A. Williamson (J. Barker 56th) - Holloway, Stuart.

Ku-Ring-Gai: Leslie (Prentice 46th) - Kevern, Bertram, Watson, Jesse - Quigley, Dene, Sutherland - N. Williamson (Nile 70th), Bass, Hunter.

AVALA 1 (Milne 65th) FAIRY MEADOW 1. Ava won on penalties 5-4.

FAIRY MEADOW (Not available):

AVALA: Milinkovic (50th Vukas) - Brown, Stjelja, Lembryk, Lucchesi, - Milne, Nedic, Mackenzie - Kosaric (Da Silva 41st), Kodor, Camey.

Round Two: MARCONI 0 ROCKDALE ILLINDEN 1 (Brown) at Marconi Stadium. Crowd: 3,500. Referee: Tim - Davies 9.

MARCONI: James 5 - Carter 7, Henderson 6 (sent off, 62nd), Calderan 7, Rizzotto 8 - Mason 7, McCulloch 6, Jankovics 7 - Lowe 5, Brown 5, Sharsme 5.

ILLINDEN: Kotzohambos 9 - Degney 8, D. Wilson 8, Youisip 7, G. Wilson 7, (Nikolovski 41st) - 6 - Nastevski 8, Slavesci 8, Blackburn 7 - Ristevski 7, Brown 6, Karanfilovski 6.

MANLY WARRINGAH 1 (Holloway) INTER MONARO 0. Referee: Allan Towns- and 8.

MANLY NARRINGAH: Barker 8 - Pearce 7, J. Dick 7, Foy 7, S. Dick 6 - Pagano 8, Steven 7, Campbell 8 - Davison 5, Holloway 7, Stuart 6.

INTER MONARO: Hocking 7 - Domazetovic 6, Santolin 7, Francis 7, Gagel 5 - Wilcox 6 (58th Djordjevic), Carbone 6, Valeri 8 - Cluffatelli 5 C. Ambrosio 49th - 5), Fiorese 5.

A.P.I.A. LEICHHARDT 2 (Genovese, Reda) SYDNEY OLYMPIC 1 (Theodorakopoulos) at St George Stadium. Crowd: 2,900. Referee: Richard Lorenz 9.

A.P.I.A.: Cattin 8, Spina 7, Butler 7, (45th Morsom 6), Bertogna 8, Brown 7 - De Ceglia 6, Reda 7, Morello 6 - Genove 7, Jones 8, Caban 5.

SYDNEY OLYMPIC: Meier 7 - Johnson 6, Dakos 7, Naumov 6, Lambropoulos 5 - Haniotis 5 (41st Spanoudakis 6), Svinos 6, Katalos 6 - Patalis 5 (Matzias 63rd), Theodorakopoulos 6, Kalantzis 7.

BLACKTOWN CITY 2 (Bourke, Shaw) URUGUAYAN AUBURN 1 (O'Shane pen).

Referee: Richard Doenau 7.

VILLANI STRIKES

ADELAIDE CITY JUVENILES 5 (Villani 42nd, 49th, 61st, Flounders 26th, Rankin 66th) SALISBURY UNITED 1 (Ball 47th). Second game of a double header at Hindmarsh Stadium.

ADELAIDE CITY JUVENILES: 7 - Donnelly 8, Nyce 8, Cicchetti 8, Flounders 8, Tait 8, Mata 9, Gray 9, Higgins 8, Muller 7, Rankin 8, Coach: Edmund Kreft.

SALISBURY UNITED: Ostendorf 0 - Letham 8, Gray 7, Higgins 8, Muller 6 (Vidmar) 7, Villani 8, Ball 47th, Coach: Ian Sim.

A Charley Villani hat-trick destroyed Rothmans League Salisbury United in the South Australian Ampol Cup last Friday.

Night seven newcomer Salisbury held Adelaide City Juveniles to a respectable 0-1 scoreline at half time. The NSW outfit's goal came in the 26th minute when big defender Neville Flounders headed in a Villani corner.

South Australian Ampol Cup with ALAN CRISP

But the floodgates opened two minutes into the second half with a classic goal from Villani, who had loaded throughout the first half, giving no indication of his explosive second half intentions.

Salisbury veteran Harry Bell made it 2-1 in the 47th minute with a sizing free kick but Villani upstaged Bell two minutes later with his second goal. He completed his hat-trick before Peter Rankin first crossed a cross from youth successor Alex Tobin to end the rout.

CROATIA 1 (Key 15th) CAMPBELLTOWN CITY 1 (Webb 37th). First game of a double header at Hindmarsh Stadium.

CROATIA: Sikkil 7 - Hutchins 0, Maricic 8, Bridges 7, Kain 8, Klein 7, (46th) 8, Tait 7, Turner 8, Kain 7, Blata 7, Reisch 6 (sent off 70th).

CAMPBELLTOWN CITY: Pivetta 7

Parsons 7, Smith 7 (sent off 70th), Ouwerkerk 8, Richardson 8 - Finch 6 (sent off), Saltzman 8, Tait 7, Turner 8, Heslop 7, Megget 8 - Webb 8, Sullivan 8.

Rothmans League champion Croatia struggled to a 1-1 draw with Campbelltown City.

It was a much-needed night for new signs. Campbelltown paraded GORDON Smith from Port Adelaide, Dave Ouwerkerk from Azurri and Larry Sullivan from Elizabeth City while Croatia introduced ex-Para Hills pair Chris Key and Dino Gallina.

Former Para captain Key opened the scoring in the 15th minute but Nick Webb equalised three minutes before half-time.

Smith ended his Campbelltown debut in inglorious fashion by being sent off late in the game along with Abby Reicher of Croatia.

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**NORTHFIELD
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Hoszowski to join Procop at Monaro



Angelo Ambrosino

Goalkeeper Steve Hoszowski, who bought out his contract with Canberra for \$1500, seems certain to join NSL newcomer Inter Monaro, which has hired former Romanian youth team coach Josif Procop on a full time basis.

Procop coached Romania during the 1981 World Youth Cup finals in Australia.

Inter Monaro and Canberra are engaged in a tug-of-war over the services of central defender Angelo Ambrosino, who played with Monaro last year on loan. Canberra is asking for \$3000 while Monaro wants to again sign the 23-year-old on loan.

There's doubt about former Socceroo left back Harry Williams staying with Monaro this

year. Williams has been on holiday and Monaro is waiting to hear from him to find out whether or not the classy defender wants to take another crack at the NSL. Williams is a former St George and Canberra player.

Monaro failed in a bid to sign Ricky Budini from Marconi. Budini, the 1984 NSW Rothmans Medal winner, played with State League Avala on loan from Marconi last year.

Monaro is likely to retain most of last year's squad and the club probably will sign a defender and a midfielder.

Up front, Monaro has few worries, for Walter Valeri, Seb Giampaolo and Tony Brennan are proven NSL performers.

If Hoszowski joins, he'll be vying with Michael Hocking for the goalkeeper's spot. Argentinian Gabriel Domiziano, long serving captain Jim Santolin and Mark Francis (along with Ambrosino and Williams) are the experienced defenders in Procop's first-team squad.

Tilsed to guide young Saints

Dez Marton is lining up for another season after initial hedging over a new contract, Roy Cotton returns after a four-year absence and former West Adelaide striker Paul Wormley has been signed from Perth, but they and the other senior St George Budapest players will be looking over their shoulder this year as a crop of young lions stake their claims to a place in the team.

Coach Frank Arok has a high opinion of these young stars, but he's guaranteeing them nothing. "If they want to play, it's up to them to push their way in," he says.

Two are prominent of them are:

STEVE STRASSHOFER, former NSW junior representative whose lack of height is offset by extraordinary strength and bullet-like shot. Arok calls him "little Puskas".

PAUL DARLINGTON, 18, a shrewd midfield general — a real thinker.

GEOFF BISCAYA, 18, rough, tough and fast. 1.8m defender who's studying to be a doctor and who, like Darlington, was unable to play last year due to his academic pursuits.

SUZI WATSON, 17, forward and CHRIS HIGH, 17, midfielder, both of whom spent two months training in Brazil recently.

CRAIG MOFFITT, 17, one of the club's best defensive prospects.

ANGELO RODIC and KEITH WARREN, both former State under 16 representatives and both goalkeepers.

RON TILSED has joined Saints from Wollongong as goalkeeper coach. Tilsed played for Canberra Arrows before going to Wollongong, and his guidance should further develop both Marton and Warren.

Cotton has been signed to Saints from Penrith in a deal under which Saints had to pay him what Penrith still owed him.

Wormley, the big English striker, had his transfer from Perth held up because his club there asked a transfer fee for him, even though visa players are not allowed to be sold. The problem was expected to be cleared up swiftly, and Wormley should soon partner Marton in attack.

St George must be the envy of every other NSL club because, believe it or not, it finished in the black in 1984!

— LAURIE SCHWAB



Steve Strasshofer

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with ROCKY DI ZIO



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FORZA JUVE!

KAT'S CORNER with PETER KATHOLOS



Kalantzis, Dakos raring to go!



Chris Kalantzis

Watch out for Chris Kalantzis and Tony Dakos in 1985. Both have been in tremendous form for Sydney Olympic during the Pindari Challenge Cup, and Kalantzis's confidence has been boosted tremendously by being included in the national team for the World Youth Championship qualifying series.

The talents of Kalantzis and Dakos and the solid ability instilled in the squad by coach Mark Soper should enable us to overcome the loss of key players Martyn Rogers, Mike Coady and Jim Patikas.

Coady, who is stammer, was the backbone of our side last year, has joined Tommy Docherty at Wolverhampton Wanderers, while Rogers also has returned to England and is trialling with Alan Davidson's club, Nottingham Forest.

Patikas, of course, is trying to join Sydney Croatia, although there's a hassle about his transfer. I hope for his sake the hassle doesn't last too long.

Marshall Soper looks like being lost to Olympic as well because he couldn't agree to terms, and it'll be a few weeks yet before Peter Raskopoulos recovers from the ankle injury he sustained on the Socceroos' world tour.

Big Alex Lambropoulos has been given the responsibility of being in for Coady in defence, while Stuart Johnston of Melita Eagles has been trialling in Rogers' right-back position even though he's

played mainly as a winger. If he doesn't fit the bill, Bobby Marmon or Arthur Saines may get the position.

Up front, we've got Mark Kousas, Nick Theodoropoulos, Terry Patalis and Kalantzis, whose talents should light the blow of losing Soper.

Gary Meier, who's played since the start of the NSL in 1977, lines up for another season in goal, but his understudy, Peter Wilson, appears to have given the game away, which is a big loss to soccer in general.

Theodoropoulos is raring to go after returning from a holiday in Greece last week, and Gary Phillips is super fit and determined after a few early problems regarding his contract.

In all, I reckon we're in pretty good shape to fight it out with Marconi, Sydney Harbour, St George and Croatia who all are looking good. Marconi could give us all a fright. They're signing Peter Tredinnick who will make them even stronger than they were in the 1984 finals. I have a lot of re-

spect for their coach, Les Scheinfug, and the younger players like David Lowe and Rod Brown, who will be even better after the experience gained last year.

Elite league is best

Although the keen competition between our strongest clubs should give us an interesting 1985 season, I firmly believe that the NSL has to revert back to an elite 14 or 16-team format.

If interest in soccer is to be boosted, that's the only way to do it.

APIA-Juventus, Hellas-Olympic, Marconi-Heidelberg, Melbourne Croatia — Sydney Croatia — they're the type of games that draw crowds and create glamour.

We need the best from Sydney and Melbourne and perhaps one from Adelaide, but I'm afraid Brisbane is a dead State soccer-wise, with little to offer in terms of drawing power.

At the moment, the northern region of the NSL looks more like a state league competition, and because there won't be any inter-region clashes before the finals, the league will lose a lot of its interstate rivalry.

In fact, the national competition really exists only in the southern region, where Victoria is pitted against Queensland and South Australia.

"Award", e complimenti al dott. Provenzano per la sua opera di prezioso appoggio alla valorizzazione dei nostri atleti e dello sport fra la comunità italo-australiana.

L'ANNO DELLA JUVENTUS

La Juventus di Melbourne, che l'anno scorso fece scalpare la capitale della Lega Nazionale e fu capolista con netto distacco per parte del girone d'andata, quest'anno sembra destinata a migliorare notevolmente ed a puntare allo scudetto.

Il nuovo presidente Tony Schiavelli si è trovato nella felice situazione di poter contare su una buona scorreria riguardo a due grandi precentori dei suoi predecessori Manenti e Verduci (di entrambi dei quali era stato valido braccio destro come vicepresidente) e di dover soltanto acquistare alcuni giocatori chiave per mettere il calcio ai maccheroni. Cosa che egli ha già fatto in gran parte, con massima entusiasmo ed ammirabile spese.

Primo ancora dell'inizio della Bulfari Gold Cup, anche se non a tutta gara, sono stati tesserati il terzino Peter Lewis ed il centrocampista Paul Wade, due ottimi giocatori di classe e di rendimento sicuri, per una spesa complessiva di \$23000.

In questi giorni potrebbe concludersi anche l'acquisto del difensore-centrocampista McDougall dal Footscray (e sarebbe un vero e proprio "buon" scudetto).

Il rientro di Incalcaterra dopo un anno di assenza per infortunio, la soluzione della situazione di Hird condizionata dal numero eccessivo di giocatori con visto di residenza temporanea, il possibile recupero di Hird (anche lui infortunato l'anno scorso ed attualmente in vacanza in Inghilterra) daranno alla Juventus una difesa ed un centrocampo con i fiocchi ed una notevole spinta in fase di attacco.

In prima linea Sweeney e' una sicurezza e Gary Ward dovrà dimostrare una volta per tutte se merita il posto in squadra. In caso affermativo tanto di guadagnato per la Juventus e tanti dolori per le difese avversarie, in caso negativo sara' rimpiazzato senza tanti complimenti.

Una Juventus che puo ambire allo scudetto '85

Ed eccoci all'inizio di un nuovo anno e di una nuova stagione calcistica. Innanzitutto cogliamo l'occasione er augurare "Buon Anno" ai nostri lettori, ai tifosi del piu' bel sport del mondo, alle squadre, ai giocatori, ai dirigenti ed a tutti coloro che gravitano nell'ambiente del calcio.

Che il 1985 possa portare a tutti maggiori soddisfazioni, nello spirito cavalleresco dello sport, ed un miglioramento reale al calcio australiano che, pur non essendo di levatura eccelsa, e' pur sempre il "nostro calcio" di cui possiamo e dobbiamo esser fieri.

Prima di avventurarsi ad esplorare le prospettive di questa stagione nuova di zecca, e' bene dare uno sguardo a ritratto ad alcuni eventi conclusivi del 1984.

INDECISIONI ED EGOSIMO

A livello nazionale l'anno scorso il calcio australiano e' stato nuovamente caratterizzato, forse in maniera piu' accentuata del solito, da indecisioni ed egoismo dei dirigenti federali, di leghe e di clubs.

I continui rovesciamenti di fronte le mezze misure e i ripensamenti repentini, i cambiamenti di direzione, l'andare avanti alla giornata non purtroppo indebolito notevolmente la già gracile fibra dell'amministrazione calcistica.

Abbiamo nuovamente assistito a lotte intestine fra la Federazione Australiana e la Lega Nazionale che ebbero il tragi-comico culmine nella minaccia della Lega di non mettere a disposizione i suoi giocatori per la squadra nazionale in occasione del torneo internazionale di metà stagione.

La "rivolta" fu evitata con la promessa che la Federazione avrebbe usato i suoi buoni uffici per far versare alla Lega la somma "promessa" dagli sponsor; cosa che poi non avvenne precipitando precarie condizioni finanziarie della Lega a dei 24 club che la formano.

Entrare nei dettagli del conflitto sarebbe inutile perch'e la situazione e' talmente ridicola ed incomprensibile da non meritare tale domanda. Il punto e' che gli interessi della Federazione della Lega alla luce della realta' del calcio australiano, dovrebbero essere pressoch'e identici e gli sforzi di entrambe dovrebbero essere rivolti nella stessa direzione.

Come alcuni papaveri ries-

endo di rimettersi alla fortuna del sorteggio che potrebbe (e lo ha fatto) far capitare le squadre piu' forti nello stesso girone in modo che si eliminano a vicenda, mentre "quadratelle" opposte ad altre "quadratelle" possono aspirare alla gloria di raggiungere le semifinali.

La suddivisione dei modesti utili del torneo e' parimenti sfacciataamente a favore dei piccoli clubs per i quali alcune centinaia di dollari possono rappresentare buona parte del bilancio annuale; la stessa cifra e' invece insignificante per i grandi club che per partecipare alla Coppa Italia debbono affrontare spese enormi.

Sia ben chiaro che non abbiamo nulla contro i piccoli clubs, ma bisogna ricordare che sono i grandi clubs fari il successo di questo sport. Mettere alla Juventus, il Fawkner e il Morwell in condizione di non partecipare affatto, oppure di mettere in campo formazioni di ragazzi sprovvisti di titolari non allenati e senza interesse, significa darsi la zappa sui piedi.

Si vuole risollevare le sorti della Coppa Italia, oltre ad altri rottami, bisogna ridurre alle grandi squadre ed ai loro giocatori il gioco incentivo di partecipare e di impegnarsi.

GIUSTO TRIBUTO A CURIO

Tony Curcio, l'ex juventino andato al Credito ormai da tre stagioni, e' "torino" tenuto alle Juve. Per le Juve lo scorso novembre grazie all'Italiano Australian Sportsman of the Year Award, la premiazione dell'atletica italo-australiano dell'anno che viene organizzata in concomitanza col bilancio annuale del club bianconero sotto il patrocinio del Consolato Generale d'Italia a Melbourne, dott. Antonino Provenzano, un diplomatico che crede fermamente nel suo paese.

Curcio era uno dei sei candidati a prestigioso titolo di atleta italo-australiano dell'anno, gli altri erano Alfredo Costanzo (automobilismo), Diperdomenico (football australiano), Sam Gibilisco (pugilato), Luigi Chiucchio (boxe).

La giuria composta da giornalisti italo-australiani ha assegnato il titolo al bravo, e modesto, giocatore che tutti vorrebbero rivedere in maglia bianconera. Peccato che ciò non sembra sia possibile per il momento.

Congratulazioni a Tony Curcio, auguri al futuro dell'

Stars deserting Brisbane City

By RICKY ROSSO

It seems there is only one way Brisbane City can go in 1985.

The club's record in the National League over the past three years has read last, third last and second last.

To be fair, club directors have channelled the majority of funds in recent years into their grand and Spencer Park ranks as one of the finest sporting stadiums in Australia. Its private boxes are unrivaled in Queensland.

But while the Gino Merlo Stand is a great tribute to past directors of the club, the fans are now demanding success on the field.

Over the past three years the City team has slowly degenerated. Former stars have disappeared one by one and sadly the replacements have not been of a similar standard.

Jim Hermiston tried to rebuild the side late in 1983, but he probably tried to do things too quickly and lost the support of the finicky Italian supporters and his job at the beginning of last year.

"There has never been a long-term policy at this club. We are about to embark on a five-year rebuilding plan," new coach Tony Lowndes said on his appointment during the off-season.

Lowndes was selected from a well-credentials list of applicants, which reportedly includes Hermiston. The Englishman is a character on the Brisbane soccer scene and admits he has had "more clubs than Jack Nicklaus."

He coached Mitchelton last year in the local First Division and Wyndham in the same league the previous season. He was the City reserve team coach before that.

This is his first crack at the big time, but then successful Lions coach Gordon Arrowsmith was Lowndes' predecessor at Mitchelton.

Lowndes has been successful in drawing plenty of local talent to trials at Spencer Park, but one suspects it has been forced upon him because not only have the past stars been drawn tight, but the purse is empty.

But Lowndes has faith in the locals. Thirty-one players attended the first training session, which included hopefuls from local teams like Wyndham, Mount Gravatt, North Star and Newmarket, and Lowndes' own players like David Costa, Kerry Felske and Wayne Corlett could be developed to NSL standard.

But there are some minor, big gaps to be filled.

It seems skipper Frank Liddell, undoubtedly City's toughest and most respected player last year, is staying in Scotland. If he returns to Australia it will be to a Sydney or Melbourne club.

In midfield, Ken Swan's loan has expired and his club Grange Thistle has once again slapped a \$10,000 fee on his transfer. City is not interested at that price.

And up front, City's record of only 15 goals in 18 league games last year showed that the club was anything but a goalscoring side in the club.

One ray of hope for 1985, Queensland youth squad striker Lee Scruggins, has left to trial at Leicester City. He is not expected back until April, at the absolute soonest. But talented youngsters Mark Barry and Mar Boyd, who played on loan at Premier League clubs last year, are expected back at Spencer Park.

Although Lowndes should be commended for giving local talent an opportunity, it is painfully obvious City must buy before the season starts if it hopes to do any better than in 1984.

The club's only signing to date has been former Lions midfielder Ray Junna, but the youngster is hardly a player on which to build a team.

To buy the players City needs is apparently beyond the club's already severely strained cash resources.

The situation is not making for a confident build-up to the first fixture and already a number of experienced players have indicated they want out rather than go through another season like last year.

Captain Frank Plumbe, who took over the reins when Joe Gilroy resigned five weeks from the end of the season, failed to show for early-season training and Steve Perry, Kim Wishart and Luciano Fabrizio, have asked to be put on, or are already on, the transfer list.

There was talk at one stage of a swap involving Fabrizio and former Lions player Steve Hogg, but the deal was initiated by Canberra's Doug Collins and City remained relatively disinterested.

So at present the indications are that the completely new City board, headed by new president John Ciavarella and chairman Paul La Nura, has a difficult time ahead. Crowds last year plummeted to record lows and the fans will not return until City starts winning.

Whether they are prepared to give Lowndes his five years is, on past examples, unlikely. But if City struggles again this year, predictions of a return to the Queensland competition in 1986 may prove much more than rumors.

JUGOSLOVENSKA SCENA

NA PAGU NOVE SEZONE

Vecina klubova Nacionalne lige stupa u novu sezonu sa nesigurnim korakima i neprecevanim racunima. Prošla godina bila je veliki promasaj, godinu promasen na dnu. Pokrovitelj se izgubio, aostavio je za sobom velike neispunjene obaveze. Ostalo je da eph plate klubovi, koji i bježi po glocu u dugovima.

Godisnja clanarina za mesto u Nacionalnoj ligi iznosi 24.000 dobara, sto znači da svaki klub mora da izgubi 12.000 dobara, a to je u skladu s tim utakmicu da bi podimio samo ovu obavezu, da ne spominjemo ostale batizme, uključujući mlađi tim, koji je oporozen sa 1500 dolara?

Prihodi su medjunarodnih utakmica i Socer-corpola takodje slijavu i savazuju blagajnu, s to nijedne nema u svetu. Prošle godine je serija tzv. Medjunarodnih utakmica prekinula prvenstvo Nacionalne lige, zbg cega su svih klubova imali smanjene prihode, jer se se smanjio interes publike.

Mnogi klubovi cuteci slijaju u sve veće dugove, ali neki ne mogu vasa da cte. Uzimimo primer JUST-a, mada Heidelberg Utel i George Cross imaju veće probleme i dugove, dok se Green Gulf Ajak rupi na rugu strani. Ni Juventus ne stoji na curvima nogama, iako se najveći dugovi uključuju u budućnost, ali je bježi da odzrađuje status vodećeg klub-a italijanskog područja, koja se je podešila na desetak klubova.

JUSTova materijalna bolest jeste hronična zbg slabih rezultata na zelenom polju. Ju-

goslovenska zajednica prakticno je okrenula ledju svom jedinom predstavniku u Nacionalnom ligu. Jugoslovenski ljudi za fudbalom, ali bez odgovornosti ijavačeva, narocito kada poduži nizbord. Sve uprave su pokusavale da poprave stanje dovođenjem novih igrača, ali zadnje godine retku se su sa kojim usrećili. Sve je do kastalo novaca koga nije bilo. Ne treba kriti je JUST da tih para, placenih za osete, sudove i advokate, mogao da podigne dom i tribine na svom igralistu.

U ovoj sezonu JUST učazi sa velikom dozvolom da ostanu. Možda je tako mnogo bolje, nego kao ranjili godina kada se suvise visoko letelo, zbg cega je svaki pod nanos teške bolove i ogromno razocarevanje.

POKUSAJ SA MLADIMA

JUST je los posao. Izgubio je prvu utakmicu sa Morwell Falconom zbog neodgovorne igre ključnici i iksusnih igrača, koji nisu priznati pukovniku mladiću i novim igračima. Međutim, trener Cede Cirkovic veruje da će se odušen starijih igrača prema igri i klubu promeniti na bolje, a da će mladi igrači kroz noćno takmicenje steci potreblje iksustvo sa Nacionalnom prvenstvom, koje počinje 10. marta.

Novi igrači su došli iz raznorednih klubova u Melbournu, jer su učinili izuzetno preusmjerljivim razvoj "plavih", "modnih" nekoliko starih igrača, koji su inace bili balast u prijedoru, međutim, ostali su i neki vredni igrači jer su trazili mnogo viši nego sto dozvoljava trenutna situacija.

Sledeci utakmicu u Nocom kupu JUST igra protiv Heidelberg Utel u subotu 2. februara na Olympic Park. Ukoliko "plavi" izgube ovu igru mogu zaboraviti na polufinalne.

MAKEDONIJA takođe ima problem sa veteranim, sto je primudilo da se osloni na mlade igrače, koji su se odlicno pokazali u prvom susretu.

JUGO-TURNIRI

Na kraju prošle sezone održana su pet Jugo-turira, koji su pružili izvanrednu zabavu jugoslovenskoj zbijeci.

Prije dva turnira osvojili su iraci Central City i zvezde.

Na turniru u Geelongu i u Williamstownu izjavljovao je mladi tim JUST, dok je na zadnjem turniru u Kesboroughu Springvale United pobedio mladi tim JUST-a u finalu sa 3:1. Postleđi turnir bio je divan spektakl i uspešna revija fudbalske snage jugoslovenske zajednice u Viktoriji.

PRIPREME OSTALIH KLUBOVA

Altona Gate/VARDAR igra prvu utakmicu sa prvenstvo Prve divizije u gostima 23. marta protiv Caulfield City-a Prema podaci ma, koji nisu potpuni u taboru Vardara nema promena. Verovatno će otici neki stariji igrači izmijeniti mlađe snage. Altona Gate ima veliku broj juniora, među njima veliki talent. Steta je ako imse ne pruži sasluši. U svakom slučaju Altona Gate ne može ni ove godine racunati na boljim plasmanom od zlatnoredne na tabeli.

U drugoj diviziji Ringwood/SRBBIJA je ponovo ukazala površina trenera Kek Kontri, koji je pokazao veliku potenciju na kraju prethodne igre, kada nije punjen, ali nova uprava ima ambične planove. Prvu utakmicu u novom prvenstvu Ringwood/SRBBIJA igra protiv North Geelonga u gostima.

S PRINGVALE UNITE D (Bratstvo/Jedinstvo) jenovljaju u trecoj diviziji, gde će naći način na veću konkurenčiju. "PLAVI" iz Springvala su izgubili najbolje strelca Milana Stojilovića, koji je prešao u JUST, ali još uvek mogu sa uspehom da se bore za visok plasman. Vazno je da igrači pokazuju same discipline i odgovornosti prema klubu, sto nije slučaj na kraju prvenstvene sezone, narocito u Kupu ceterke. Prvu prvenstvenu sezonu, narocito u Kupu ceterke, igra protiv Ringwood/SRBBIJA u subotu 23. marta.

Izvor/SLOGA se takmiči u ceterkoj diviziji. U novu sezonu ulazi sa velikim ambicijama. Za trenera je angazovan Jano Kalinčević, koji je sa uspehom trenerao juniorne Preston/Makedonije i skolsku reprezentaciju države Viktorije. Uprava pregovara se ceturu do pet igrača sa velikim iksustvom, koji mogu pomoći Slogi da izbrije prizak u trecoj diviziji.

Pored pojedinačne pravljivosti, klub će početi sa gradnjom doma na igralištu u Thomasomu, prvu utakmicu u novoprvenstvu Sloga igra protiv Bordera u Albury-u u subotu 23. marta.

U prvoj prvenstvenoj diviziji svake druge subote igraće se jedan Jogo-derbi između 4

klubova. Na papiru najaci je Williamstown/MILADOST, koji je okupio prilicno broj dobitnih igrača, ali su mu glavna snaga bivši juniori JUST-a i akvovici, ostalini i Jovic. Razume se bez izvrsnog golmana Milutina Cirica ne bi ovaj klub mogao postignu u prošloj sezonu, pa će i ove godine popularni Cira biti stab odbrana. Međutim, navala se takođe moja pojatnica protiv Bordera u Albury-u u subotu 23. marta.

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ja, koje donose prilicni prihod klubu. Klub je promenio ime, posto je dobio igraštice na Grey Reserve u Williamstown. Prve godine klub se zvao Carlton, a za naseljene MILADOST. Prvu prvenstvenu utakmicu MILADOST igraje protiv Chelsea u gostima.

CentralCity/C ZVEZDA ima mnogo bolje igrace od rezultata koje je postigla u prošloj prvenstvu. Ove godine će biti teže, jer su Emil Petrov i Edi Krt vratili u maticni klub JUST. Ijos uvek imaju igrača sa kojima se može postići zavidan uspeh. Goran Simić, Dragan Milenković i Miki Cvetković su retki talenti, koji još uvek npravljaju i ove sezone mogu biti udarne snage Zvezde. Zvezda ima odlicne uslove za trening na Como Parku. Trener je Petar Krtić, koji zajedno sa baratom Zoranom, Mladom i Velikim Veljicom, i Nikolom Popovićem, pružaju dobre uslove za trening. CentralCity/C Zvezda je učinio pravljivu pripremu za malom fudbalsku kuću koja se održava na Monash Univerzitetu. Pored toga, Zvezda je pomogla JUST-u i priprema za nocno takmicenje, sa kojim je odigrala prijateljsku na svom igralistu protiv Regenta na Como Parku u subotu 23. marta.

PASOCE VATE/PELISTER je novajlja u prvoj diviziji i jedini klub koji je prošle godine osvojio prvenstvo. Istina, "plavi" iz Pasoce Vate su pošte toga naglo popularni, ali još uvek učinili da se povrate i ostvaruju velike ambicije za prelazak u Metropolitanu. U prvom kolu novog prvenstva Pasoce Vate je gostište.

WANTIRNA je samo po imenu nov klub. Prve godine se zvao HAWKSLEY, koji je cetero metu u prvoj prvenstvenoj diviziji. Klub je trenerirao sa uspehom Joe Sabo, koji je iz porodice razloga napustio Australiju za kratko vreme, ali se već vratio na duznost. Wantirna ima novo igraliste, ciji je vlasnik. Pored toga, na igralistu se graditi igrači, a vec su izgradjene nove prostorije. Prvu prvenstvenu utakmicu Wantirna igra protiv Hawthorna na svom igralistu.

ALTONA/VOJVODINA je ostala u drugoj prvenstvenoj diviziji iako je imala vrlo dobar im.

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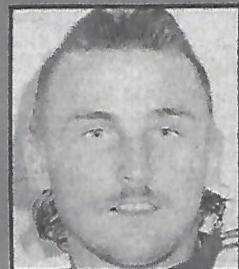
THE 1985 BUFFALO GOLD CUP



Fab Incantalupo

FRIDAY 1st FEB

BRUNSWICK JUVENTUS vs MORWELL FALCONS
AT 7.15



Tommy Cummings

MELBOURNE CROATIA vs PRESTON
at 8.40



Charlie Yankos

SATURDAY 2nd FEB

SUNSHINE GEORGE CROSS vs FAWKNER
AT 7.15



Joe Palinkas

HEIDELBERG UNITED vs FOOTSCRAY

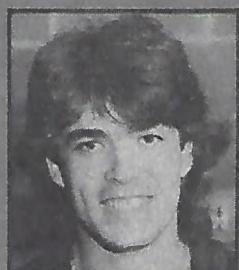
AT 8.40



Chris Kalifatidis

WEDNESDAY 6th FEB

MARIBYRNONG POLONIA vs BOX HILL
AT 7.15



Pedro Ramos

STH MELBOURNE HELLAS vs GREEN GULLY
AT 8.40

ALL GAMES TO BE PLAYED AT

OLYMPIC PARK NO 1 GROUND

ADMISSION

ADULTS — \$6.00 PENSIONERS — \$2.00
CHILDREN 12 years to 16 years — \$1.00
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